MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

14 DECEMBER 1982

Lebanon

'Alayh-Ash-Shuf Situation -- The 'Alayh and Ash-Shuf areas were calm on 14 December following a 13 December meeting during which the clashing groups agreed to cease fire and to remove armed personnel from the roads, according to Beirut radio reports. ITIM cited assertions by Israeli military sources in 'Alayh that the 13 December fighting was "limited firing" caused by extremists interested in renewing clashes.

Tripoli Clashes -- Efforts to control the situation in Tripoli were unsuccessful on 12 December because the deployment of Lebanese security forces and the implementation of other security measures were not completed; clashes resumed and continued throughout the night, Beirut radio reported. Baghdad Voice of PLO radio claimed that 45 were killed or wounded in the 10-13 December clashes. An atmosphere of unrest prevailed, during which shells fell on the Al-Baddawi camp, Beirut Voice of Lebanon radio reported. This incident led to "intensive deployment" of armed Palestinians in the area of the camp, the radio claimed. All schools in Tripoli remained closed on 14 December, but businesses were gradually reopening, Beirut radio noted.

Tripoli Delegation to Syria -- A delegation from Tripoli, Lebanon, left for Syria to discuss measures to end the current tension there, Beirut Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Liaison Meeting -- During a meeting of the Political Committee of the Higher Liaison Commission of the multinational forces, President Amin al-Jumayyil drew attention to the deteriorating security situation both in the Ash-Shuf Mountain areas and in the north and called for quick action to end the clashes, Beirut radio reported. The president affirmed that the government is making every effort to begin negotiations for a quick Israeli withdrawal, the radio added.

Israel

Lebanon Negotiations -- Noting that U.S. envoys Philip Habib and Morris Draper are expected in Israel shortly, IDF radio declared that the men will find "a great deal of readiness" in Jerusalem to begin negotiations immediately. This readiness may be expressed in a softening of Israel's demand to hold negotiations in Jerusalem, the radio added. Interior Minister Yosef Burg stated that while meeting in the two capitals shouldn't be ruled out, Israel should investigate whether there are "sufficient incentives to give in on the geographical question of the venue for the talks," IDF radio reported. Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon claimed that if the United States agrees to separate the Palestinian problem from the Lebanese problems, the venue will no longer be a key issue in preventing progress in the negotiations, Jerusalem radio reported.

Sharon's U.S. Visit -- Although Defense Minister Sharon told Jerusalem television that he saw "nothing unusual" in the fact that he was not received by U.S. officials during his recent visit to the United States, the Tel Aviv daily HA'ARETZ cited Jerusalem political sources as saying that Sharon felt "bitterly humiliated" by the United States and would fiercely oppose any new U.S. proposals in an effort to "pay the Americans back."

Egypt

Haykal Interview -- In an interview with the Beirut weekly magazine MONDAY MORNING, former Cairo AL-AHRAM editor Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal asserted that the recent events in Lebanon completely exposed Arab impotence, marked the end of an Arab era and confirmed the Egyptian people's worst suspicions about Israel. Haykal declared that the Reagan peace plan was proposed to absorb Arab anger, but Reagan does not intend to implement it because it would be easier to impose U.S. will on a fragmented Arab world. A new Arab era is inevitable, and will be created as a result of the "despair and disgust" that is currently evident throughout the Arab world, Haykal added.

Mubarak in Europe -- President Husni Mubarak met with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz at the Egyptian Embassy in Rome on 13 December to discuss the situation in Lebanon and the settlement of the Palestinian question, MENA and Cairo radio reported. Mubarak later left Rome for Bonn, where he will meet with senior FRG officials, another MENA report noted.

PLO

Amman Meeting -- The higher Jordanian-Palestinian committee held two meetings in Amman on 13 December, according to Amman radio reports. The delegations, led by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran, discussed joint relations and joint political moves within the framework of the Fes summit resolutions, the radio noted. The committee will devise a plan to define future relations and to preserve proposed options pertaining to the final legal form of these relations, Radio Monte Carlo claimed. PLO spokesman Mahmud Labadi told AFP that the negotiations with Jordan were "very positive."

Baghdad Voice of PLO radio declared that the Palestinian move toward Jordan is in complete accordance with the general Palestinian policy and that the PLO Executive Committee, the PLO Central Council, and the Palestine National Council made decisions in this regard; however, an official source in the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) alleged that the committee that is currently meeting in Amman was not formed as a result of a decision made by any legitimate Palestinian group, SANA reported. The source stressed that the PFLP-GC rejects the committee's tasks and warned those meeting in Amman of the grave consequences which may result from tampering with the Palestinian cause, SANA added.

Relations With Syria -- The PLO spokesman revealed that an Arab good offices committee is trying to mediate between the PLO and Syria, Radio Monte Carlo and AFP reported; the spokesman termed the existing differences as a misunderstanding between members of the same family.

YAR Earthquake

An earthquake damaged or destroyed over 80 towns and villages in the YAR's Dhamar Province on 13 December, killing at least 686 people, San'a' radio reported. A statement issued by YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, broadcast by San'a' radio, indicated that the government has sent military, security and medical assistance to the province. The earthquake registered between 5.4 and 6 on the Richter scale. San'a radio reported.

DAILY REPORT

South Asia

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INJECTION OF CHEMICALS INTO CANAL DENIED

LD111928 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Excerpts] For the past several days, the imperialist propaganda systems -- including the BBC, the Voice of America, Deutsche Welle and others -- have begun a new wave of their periodic propaganda, full of their usual lies and fabrications against the DRA, quoting a number of unidentified suspicious Americans.

This time, the inventors of imperialist propaganda have concocted a masterpiece of deceit and fabrication. They repeatedly claim that in a Lowgar Province village, in an underground irrigation canal flammable chemical substances were used against people.

This type of dirty lie, told constantly by the infernal imperialist propaganda systems to defame the DRA, are not unfamiliar to our people and the people of the world. The inventors of such propaganda, whose possess no documents or evidence to support their claims, shamelessly are repeating this type of lie despite their rejection by authoritative international sources in an effort to distract the world public and to prepare the necessary groundwork for trickery and other goals.

Everyone will recall that the U.S. State Department recently issued a false report on the use of so-called chemical weapons in Afghanistan, Laos, and Kampuchea. At the same time, the report by four UN specialists who spent 2 years investigating this matter also was published. This team of UN experts, headed by General (Esmat), clearly announced after 2 years of continuous investigations, experiments and interviews that they had not found the slightest evidence or document to show the use of chemical weapons in Afghanistan. Despite this crushing blow to imperialist propaganda, they shamelessly continue this type of propaganda.

On several occasions in the past, we have presented figures and documents quoting Washington authorities and the confessions of the imperialist countries' mass media, which prove that the United States carries the burden of the greatest crimes resulting from the use of chemical and biological weapons.

The BAKHTAR information agency strongly and resolutely rejects this most recent lie of imperialist propaganda and regards it as an invention of the imperialist inventors of lies.

We clearly announce that this alleged incident claimed by imperialist sources never occurred in Lowgar Province or in any other part of the DRA and we resolutely condemn this unwarranted lie as another example of the intensification of the interference and psychological war against the DRA.

REBEL LEADER REPORTS SOVIET MISSILE INSTALLATION

LD121454 Riyadh SPA in English 1300 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 12 (SPA) -- The Soviets have installed missiles capable of carrying nuclear war-heads, in Vakhan Salient of north-eastern Afghanistan, an Afghan mujahidin leader said here today.

Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, vice-president of the Islamic unity of Afghan mujahidin told reporters that the Soviets had built three big tunnels, set up communications listening radars and installed missiles carrying nuclear war-heads. The Soviets annexed Vakhan Salient last year which is situated adjacent to Pakistan's northern borders.

Mr Hikmatyar said two key officials in Afghan prime minister's office, who defected last year brought valuable information on the Soviet missiles so close to Pakistan and Chinese borders.

Mr Hikmatyar said Russian occupation forces in Afghanistan were expanding their bases at Jalalabad, Mazar-e Sharif and Qandahar. He added that the Soviets were bringing fresh Red Army troops and building new army barracks. He said the number of the Soviet troops in Afghanistan had reached a figure of nearly 250,000 troops.

The Afghan mujahidin leader said the mujahidin were holding 14 Russian prisoners. He added that the mujahidin were running their own administration in liberated areas of Afghanistan and operating three radio stations.

'TRAITORS' GROUP 'CRUSHED' IN BAHARAK DISTRICT

LD121640 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Text] The officers and troops of the sarandoy and the defenders of the revolution, with the cooperation of the toiling people of Baharak District, recently crushed a 100-strong group of traitors to the homeland, the revolution and the people who were causing annoyance and suffering to the toiling people of that district. A number of different American and Chinese weapons, antipersonnel and antitank mines and a large quantity of assorted ammunition were captured from these murderers.

MUJAHIDIN 'LIBERATE' BURKA SUBDIVISION 18 NOV

BK101534 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, freedom fighters once again have liberated Burka Subdivision, 40 km east of Baghlan. Mujahidin attacked Burka Subdivision on 18 November. After fierce fighting, Soviet and Karmal administration troops withdrew, carrying away their dead and injured. Mujahidin captured 150 rifles and a large amount of other arms and ammunition. In the last 3 years, this subdivision has been liberated twice. However, the Karmal administration troops each time have reoccupied it after heavy bombing and a large tank assault.

Meanwhile, a high military officer of the Afghan Army, Colonel (Abdul Mannan), has deserted the Karmal administration and taken refuge in Pakistan. He was chief military engineer and chief of military engineering services in Kabul.

BRIEFS

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM USSR -- Abdol Majid Sarboland, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and deputy chairman of Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society, who headed a delegation to the Soviet Union to attend the session of the Soviet Friendship Societies With Foreign Countries in Moscow on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Soviet Union, today returned home. He was welcomed at Kabul International Airport by Dr Khalil Ahmad Abawi, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; Raz Mohammad Paktin, minister of water and power; the deputy minister of foreign affairs and representative of the Protocol Department of that ministry and the charge d'affaires and members of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul. [Text] [Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 30 Nov 82 LD]

INVITATIONS SENT OUT FOR NONALIGNED SUMMIT

BK131410 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 13 Dec 82

[Text] India has started sending out invitations to other nonaligned nations for attending the summit in New Delhi in March. Announcing this today, the official spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said that the invitations are from Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi to the executive heads of various nonaligned nations. These are being sent through India's diplomatic missions and the entire process is expected to be over in a few days.

The Nonaligned Movement has 97 members in all, including India. No invitation is being sent to Kampuchea. Its seat in the movement's conferences remains vacant at present, though the country is a member. Bilaterally, however, India has recognized the Heng Samrin regime there.

In answer to questions, the spokesman said that Mrs Gandhi's letter deals with a number of current world issues besides containing the invitation to the summit. He added that the names of countries to be invited as observers or guests are still being finalized by the nonaligned nations Coordinating Bureau.

PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED ON ARUNACHAL PRADESH

BK101451 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1442 GMT 10 Dec 82

["Statement to the press" by official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs]

[Text] The full text of an NCNA item relating to the inclusion of a dance from Arunachal Pradesh at the ASIAD concluding ceremony just become available to the Government of India.

The government regrets both the contents and tone of this unwarranted attack which has been made through the Chinese official news agency.

Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of India. It is beyond comprehension that an official agency of the Chinese Government should object to such a normal event as a dance troupe from this part of India participating in an occasion where different parts of the country are represented. Particularly at this stage of our bilateral negotiations, it is indeed perverse.

The government particularly regrets the NCNA comment since the Chinese contingent to the games was so warmly welcomed and its performance generously acclaimed by the Indian public.

Over 14,000 square miles of Indian territory are under illegal occupation of China. On the initiative of India official talks have been undertaken on the boundary question which has to be resolved for normalisation of relations between the two countries. The Government of India has adopted a positive and constructive approach in these talks in order to arrive at a mutually acceptable basis for discussions and to create an atmosphere propitious for settlement of the boundary question.

The statement of the official Chinese news agency runs counter to the spirit guiding the effort to improve relations. We reject the NCNA commentary and its implications.

EMBASSY DENIES CHARGES OF SPYING IN ITALY

BK111443 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1433 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] The following official denial was issued by the Embassy of India, Rome, to the press, diplomatic mission and the Foreign Ministry on 11 December:

"Reports appearing today in a section of the Italian press about a member of the staff of the Indian Embassy having been expelled from Italy are baseless. The Indian Embassy is not aware of any demand from Italian authorities for the expulsion of any of its personnel nor has any complaint ever been received against a member of the Indian Embassy for having committed any act prejudicial to the security of Italy.

"The embassy also wishes to point out that it is calumnious and patently absurd to link, however obliquely, the name of this embassy with the current judicial investigation into arms and drug trafficking or into the attempt on the life of his holiness the pope who is held in universal respect by the Indian people and in particular by the 12 million Roman Catholics in India."

PTI REPORT CITED ON BOMB BLAST IN BOMBAY

BK110519 Hong Kong AFP in English 0504 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] New Delhi, Dec. 11 (AFP) -- A hand bomb exploded in a busy bazaar area in the west Indian metropolis of Bombay late last night injuring at least nine persons, Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported today.

The identity of the injured, including one woman, is yet to be established, PTI said, quoting police sources. No one has claimed responsibility for the incident.

POLICE IMPOSE 'INDEFINITE' CURFEW IN BARODA

BK140853 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Dec 82

[Text] In Baroda, senior police officials are now campaigning in wadi areas to keep a close watch on the situation there. Indefinite curfew has been imposed in the wake of some disturbances last night. Police sources said that one person was killed in last night's incident.

INCREASED TRADE EXPECTED WITH ROMANIA, CSSR

BK031412 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 3 Dec 82

[Text] A larger trade turnover was envisaged between India and Romania as well as India and Czechoslovakia during the next year. Trade protocols for 1983 were recently signed at Bucharest and Prague.

The Indo-Romanian trade protocol provides for a turnover of over 310 million rupees, which is 50 million more from that in 1982. Major exports from India will be minerals, agricultural products, leather and textiles and engineering goods.

The protocol between India and Czechoslovakia envisages a trade turnover of over 380 million rupees during 1983. This will be about 47 million rupees more than that of 1982.

TURKISH PRESIDENT MAKES STOPOVER VISIT

BK121539 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Excerpts] Turkish President Kenan Evren arrived in Karachi this afternoon for a night's stopover on his way to Beijing.

He was given a very warm welcome. Gen Mohammad Iqbal Khan, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee and acting chief martial law administrator, and Sind Governor S.M. Abbasi welcomed him at the airport.

Talking to Radio Pakistan's Turkish correspondent, President Kenan Evren said he was very happy to again visit friendly and fraternal Pakistan. He said he was carrying with him good wishes from the Turkish people for the people of Pakistan. He said he was looking forward to meeting with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq. He added that he will meet him during a brief stopover in Pakistan at the end of this month after his visits to Asian countries.

The Turkish president will be the guest of honor tonight at a banquet hosted by the acting chief martial law administrator. The Turkish president will leave for Beijing tomorrow morning.

Leaves for Beijing 13 Dec

BK130650 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 13 Dec 82

[Text] Turkish President Kenan Evren left for Beijing this morning after a night's stopover in Karachi. Gen Mohammad Iqbal Khan, chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff Committee and acting chief martial law administrator; Sind Governor S.M. Abbasi; and others saw him off at the airport.

NAWA-I-WAQT VIEWS CHANGING RELATIONS WITH U.S.

GF121750 Karachi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 10 Dec 82 p 3

[Editorial: "The Assurances To Fulfill All Promises"]

[Excerpts] President Reagan has promised to fulfill all promises made to Pakistan. He has made no attempt to hide the fact that there have been certain differences between the two countries and he has expressed the hope that Pakistani-American relations (which are based on mutual ties and interests) will be true and durable.

Heading the list of promises made to Pakistan by the United States and what is of supreme importance, is the program finalized after prolonged and detailed talks last year under which the United States had accepted the responsibility for the sale of arms to Pakistan and the grant of a long-term loan to the tune of 500 million [as published] over a period of 5 years for strengthening its defense and for its economic progress. Action on this program has only just begun and with the passage of time its mode and the rate of which it is given, will prove the extent of truth in President Reagan's announcement to honor all his commitments to Pakistan.

Regarding President Reagan's announcement of his policy regarding Pakistan's nuclear program, Pakistan's feeling, or rather complaint, is that Pakistan and only Pakistan has been singled out for this opposition by the United States. Another issue on which both countries have very definite differences is the question of durable peace in the Middle East based on justice.

Pakistan's sympathy with the Arab stance is not merely on the basis of Islamic ties; it also stems from the humanitarian point of view because the United States has reserved its support and aid for the belligerent and aggressive Israel. In any case, it seems that for both countries, the only way to have lasting and cordial ties will be to establish unity based on differences.

Pakistani-American ties are now being forged on new considerations. At one time, both countries were linked with pacts such as SEATO and CENTO, which were then of fundamental importance. During that period, Pakistan had some very bitter and traumatic experiences and memories of U.S. indifference to its efforts to safeguard its independence and territorial integrity, which are still fresh in the minds of the Pakistanis. After dissociating itself from these facts, Pakistan expanded and strengthened its ties with the Islamic world on the one hand and, on the other, it joined the ranks of the Nonaligned Movement. Therefore, the extent of the usefulness of the "new chapter" in the relations between the United States and Pakistan will depend on the extent of the realistic and sensible attitude of the United States.

Despite overt support by the Reagan administration, there are many lobbies (especially the extremely influential Zionist lobby, the pro-Indian lobby, and those lobbies which are traditionally prejudiced against the Muslim world) which are active and the echo of their opposition can be heard both in the U.S. media and Congress. Therefore, in the near future, Pakistanis will be witnesses to the decisive way in which the Reagan administration will tackle the antagonism of these lobbies in the American Congress.

DAWN APPLAUDS RESULTS OF PRESIDENT'S U.S. VISIT

GF131058 Karachi DAWN in English 12 Dec 82 p 9

[Editorial: Pakistani-U.S. Relations]

[Text] President Ziaul Haq's visit to the United States should have a profound impact on Pakistan-U.S. ties. Although the relationship between the two countries had in the last year or so begun to undergo a process of "reinvigoration", to use President Reagan's word, the Pakistani president's talks with American leaders in Washington last week have helped further strengthen ties.

The unusual warmth and cordiality which marked the various ceremonies held during the general's stay in Washington point to the importance Pakistan now enjoys in American policy. The meeting of minds between the two governments on important issues and their shared values and perceptions should help them place their friendship on a stable footing. It clearly emerged from the speeches made during President Zia's visit to the American capital that the major problem on which the two countries shared a common concern was Afghanistan.

President Reagan and President Zia called for a political settlement of the Afghan issue based on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from that country. It is significant that both leaders perceive the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan as having brought about a qualitative change in the region with grave implications for the security of the states of Southwest Asia.

For Pakistan, the Reagan administration's response to these developments has proved to be a key factor in shaping its policy in the region.

Islamabad and Washington have held similar views on Soviet Military intervention in Afghanistan and its likely effect on the geopolitical situation in Southwest Asia.

In this context, Pakistan's geographical position has assumed great importance in American eyes. The present administration has made efforts to translate concern for Pakistan's security into tangible action. The 3.2-billion-dollar economic aid and military sales package offered by the U.S. should help Pakistan to strengthen its defences and economy. This alone will it be in a position to withstand what President Zia called the "external forces of disruption."

The accord for a joint commission signed in Washington on Monday also underlines the determination of the two governments to strengthen their economic ties. The commission will facilitate Pakistani-American cooperation in the field of economics, commerce, science, technology, education, and culture.

President Zia's visit provided him with the opportunity to impress upon the American leadership the importance of a clear understanding of Pakistan's foreign policy and its position in South Asia. Thus, President Zia could emphatically tell his hosts that continued commitment to the principles of non-alignment and the objectives of the Islamic Conference are the fundamental postulates of Pakistan's foreign policy.

He also made it clear that there was no scope for the use of the American Rapid Deployment Force in and around Pakistan. If the relationship between the United States and Pakistan is to rest on a stable and firm footing, it is important that the two governments clearly define the framework within which they will be cooperating. In the absence of a clear understanding on the limits within which their security and economic relationship is to be based, serious differences can crop up at a later stage.

It is heartening to note that President Reagan has shown a grasp of some of the imperatives of South Asian politics. Thus, he has welcomed the Indo-Pakistani move to reconcile their differences. But on the issue of Pakistan's nuclear programme, the two sides do not appear to be in agreement. Although the nuclear question has not been allowed to stand in the way of friendly relations as had happened previously when American aid to Pakistan was twice suspended, it is in the interest of both countries that the issue be resolved to their mutual satisfaction.

'GLOBAL TENDER' FLOATED FOR NUCLEAR PLANT

BK131714 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Dec 82

[Text] Pakistan has floated global tender for the $1,400-million Chashma nuclear power project. It is targeted to produce 900 megawatts of nuclear power. Agency reports say that the United States Administration has cautioned American firms against Pakistan trying to buy a nuclear reactor or its parts. It has also cautioned Japan and its West European allies against the sale of nuclear technology to Pakistan to prevent nuclear proliferation.

Reports indicate that three Western countries -- Federal Republic of Germany, Belgium, and Switzerland -- have shown keen interest in helping Pakistan build its Chashma nuclear plant. They responded to Pakistan's invitation for help despite American pressure for not doing so.

BANGLADESH

ERSHAD, HABIB CHATTI DISCUSS MIDEAST ISSUES

BK140134 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 17[illegible]5 GMT 13 Dec 82

[Excerpt] Visiting Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Conference [OIC] Habib Chatti called on Chief Martial Law Administrator [CMLA] Lt Gen H.M. Ershad at his residence tonight. During the meeting, Chatti apprised the CMLA of the latest developments in the Middle East and the activities of the OIC to promote cooperation among the Muslim countries. He also discussed with General Ershad matters relating to the forthcoming Islamic foreign ministers' conference due to be held in Dhaka in December next year.

Foreign Minister A.R. Shansud Doha was also present during the meeting. In the evening, Chatti visited Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies.

BRIEFS

JUTE TO USSR -- Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation [BJMC] is to sell jute goods worth 120 million taka to the Soviet Union. An agreement to this effect was signed in Dhaka today. With this sale, BJMC's export of jute goods to the Soviet Union during this fiscal year stands at over 250 million taka. BJMC has so far earned about 3.14 billion taka in foreign exchange by exporting jute goods. [Text] [Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Dec 82 BK]

SOVIET PEACE DELEGATION -- A four-member delegation of the Soviet Peace Committee is now in Dhaka on a week-long visit to Bangladesh. Headed by the vice president of the Soviet Peace Committee, (Abidavich Zaygov), members of the delegation will also visit Chittagong. [Text] [Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 7 Dec 82 BK]

NEPAL

TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA

BK121521 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Text] Nepal and Czechoslovakia today signed their first trade and payments agreement at a special function held at the Foreign Ministry. The agreement was signed by Minister for Industry, Commerce and Supplies Balaram Ghatrinagar and Federal Minister for Foreign Trade of Czechoslovakia Bohumil Urban on behalf of his majesty's government and the Government of Czechoslovakia, respectively. The validity of this agreement will be for a period of 7 years and after the expiry of that period, this agreement can automatically be extended for a period of another year.

Finance Minister Dr Yadva Prashad Pant today had talks in Katmandu with Federal Minister of Foreign Trade of Czechoslovak Socialist Republic Bohumil Urban, who arrived in Katmandu this morning leading a six-member trade delegation. At the talks, both ministers expressed pleasure at the signing of trade and payments agreement between the two countries and stressed the need to promote economic cooperation and trade between Nepal and Czechoslovakia.

MINISTRY STATEMENT ON OPEC PRICES, PRODUCTION

LD111204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, on the eve of the OPEC oil ministers' meeting in Vienna, the Oil Ministry today issued an official statement declaring the stand of the Islamic Republic of Iran vis-a-vis oil prices, production levels and quotas for the OPEC members. This statement was placed at the disposal of our correspondent by the Oil Ministry under secretary for international affairs. It announces:

It is necessary to maintain the price of crude oil at $34 per barrel. On the production level, the statement says: In view of the economic forecasts, which predict that the demand for oil will not increase in 1983, we believe the OPEC daily production should be fixed at around 17.5 million barrels. This is equivalent to the same level of production that was fixed for the current year. It can be increased proportionally with any possible future increase in market demand for the OPEC oil. The balance in the market can be maintained by this method.

The statement of the Iranian Oil Ministry also says: We are interested in the stability [ta'adol] of the market situation and will do our best in the next session to maintain this stability.

On quotas for OPEC members, the statement says: We believe in this session each country's quota should be fixed in accordance with logical principles. These logical principles are the past level of OPEC production and each member country's oil resources, financial needs and other resources.

The official statement of the Oil Ministry says: We believe OPEC has faced more difficult days in the past and it will solve its present problems, God willing. Apart from that, we believe if OPEC had sooner employed logical criteria for fixing quotas, today's problems would have been much fewer and a lot smaller and would not have seemed so important.

DEPUTY OIL MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

GF111724 Tehran IRNA in English 1648 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] Tehran, Dec 11, IRNA -- 'Abbas Honardust, the deputy Iranian oil minister, said in a press conference today the Islamic Republic of Iran had requested from OPEC a daily production quota of three million barrels of oil per day instead of the 1.2 BPD [barrels per day] adopted by the organisation.

He said that the request was made at the OPEC members meeting last March. He also said that the present assigned quota was unacceptable to Iran.

Honardust further said that in the upcoming OPEC oil ministers meeting in Vienna, the oil exporting countries will discuss the preservation of the current oil price and OPEC production ceiling, including determining the price for quality crude for some members as well as decide on the next chairman of the organisation.

He said that according to the organisation's article of association, the new chairman of OPEC will be chosen by Iran and the Iranian delegation will introduce its candidate at the meeting.

The Iranian oil official also said that Venezuelan energy minister will arrive here on Tuesday, upon his request to confer with Iranian officials before the OPEC conference.

OIL MINISTER: NOT A DROP OF OIL TO ENEMIES

GF101812 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] Ahvaz, Dec. 10, IRNA -- The enemies of Islam and the revolution should know that the Islamic Republic will not sell them a single drop of oil.

This statement was made by Iran's oil minister, Mohammad Gharazi here Thursday. He also said that the Islamic Republic will, however, sell its oil to countries which have good relations with it.

The oil minister, currently touring here, on Thursday inspected the oil pumping stations of Goore in Gachsaran region (southwest of Ahvaz).

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 1,148

LD101736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Communique No 1,148 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The combat groups defending the Islamic revolution continued firing on enemy infantry and armored positions and supply lines over the past 24 hours. The forces of Islam, enjoying superior combat power and morale, inflicted effective losses on the equipment of the Saddamist forces on every front and in every operations zone, killing or wounding a number of Iraqi military men.

In the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operational zone and on the western fronts, our combat units managed to destroy three tanks, four vehicles and two mortars and to put two tanks out of action.

In the Sumar region, our forces engaged an enemy patrol unit attempting to penetrate our positions. They inflicted losses and casualties and forced Saddam's troops to flee.

During a series of exchanges of fire in the Marivan region, our zealous combatants strongly returned the enemy's fire and shelled the mercenaries' positions in the (?Beydarvaz) region, inflicting losses on the Saddamist forces.

In the Moharram operational zone and on the southern fronts, the forces of Islam, enjoying divine help, maintained control over the defense areas and defended their positions.

In the past 24 hours, the artillery units of the Ground Forces of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran opened fire on enemy positions, stopping construction of fortifications and earthworks and preparation of minefields.

Our forces also shelled Saddamist positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud, destroying 10 trenches and 2 ammunition dumps and stopping enemy movements.

The Saddamist criminals yesterday destroyed six houses in Abadan by heavy and long-range weapons fire and set fire to parts of Khorramshahr.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,149

LD111758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Communique No 1,149 issued by the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The results of battles fought by the combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran hereby are brought to the attention of the dear compatriots.

On most of the western fronts, exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued yesterday. In the Qasr-e Shirin area, the combatants of Islam set fire to a Saddamist motor pool and destroyed a number of their vehicles.

On the Sumar and Naftshahr fronts, one tank, one mortar and four vehicles belonging to the enemy were destroyed.

On the Marivan fronts, the combatants of the Ground Forces opened heavy artillery fire on enemy positions and units in the Hargineh region, destroying several positions of the Saddamist forces and silencing the fire of their artillery and heavy weapons. The number of enemy forces killed or wounded on each of the western fronts of the country was considerable.

On the southern fronts, exchanges of fire continued and the combatants of Islam were busy consolidating their defensive positions. They stopped the fire of the Saddamist forces while defending the areas under their protection.

In exchanges of fire on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the combatants of Islam -- both brave Navy personnel and Gendarmerie warriors -- opened fire on enemy positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud, destroying several foxholes and trenches and an ammunition depot. In these operations, several enemy personnel were killed and the Saddamist forces were immobilized.

The tactical moves of the fighters of the Air Force and the timely fire of the antiaircraft defense units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran yesterday foiled all attempted air aggressions by the mercenary Saddamist forces.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,150

LD121748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Communique No 1,150 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. During the past 24 hours, thanks to their ungrudging efforts on the battlefronts and their heavy artillery and mortar fire on enemy fortifications, personnel and armored equipment, the combatants of Islam dealt crushing blows to the Saddamists.

In the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operational sector and on the western fronts, fire was exchanged. Thanks to our forces' artillery fire, two tanks, a 106-mm gun and a number of enemy trenches and foxholes were destroyed. In the Marivan sector, our forces' continued to destroy enemy positions and bunkers. In that sector, our heroic forces brought enemy assembly points in Tutman in Iraq under fire, inflicting losses and casualties. In the Qasr-e Shirin sector, there was an exchange of heavy weapons fire. The combative units of the Gendarmerie destroyed a vehicle carrying Iraqi personnel in the (Chughahamam) sector and killed or wounded a number of its passengers.

In the Moharram operational sector and on the southern fronts, while continuing to fortify their defensive positions, our combatants neutralized enemy movements and activities. By bringing enemy assembly points unier artillery fire, they inflicted losses on them.

Thanks to our forces' firing on enemy positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud, six enemy trenches and a vehicle were destroyed yesterday and several enemy personnel were killed.

The residential areas of Abadan yesterday were repeatedly brought under long-range fire as a result of which three houses were wrecked and one of our compatriots was injured.

During the past 24 hours, enemy air aggressions against border towns and operational sectors were confronted with heavy antiaircraft fire and the aggressive planes were forced to flee.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,151

LD131844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Dec 82

[Communique No 1,151 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its condolences on the anniversary of the death of the illustrious prophet of Islam, His Holiness Mohammad -- may God's peace and blessings be upon him and his kin -- an on the anniversary of the martyrdom of His Holiness Imam Hasan Mujtaba -- may God's peace be upon him -- to the lord of the age, His Holiness Mahdi, may God hasten his glad advent; to Imam Khomeyni, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran; to the Muslim and faithful Iranian nation and to all victorious fighters of Islam.

We now inform the beloved compatriots of some of the self-sacrifices and heroic deeds of the true followers of the Koran on the battlefronts of the imposed war. During exchange of fire on the western fronts yesterday, the fighters of Islam opened artillery fire on the positions and units of the forces of Saddam, destroying 2 vehicles, 1 mortar and a number of fortifications of the Iraqi forces and killing or wounding more than 20 of the enemy mercenary troops.

On the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Qasr-e Shirin fronts, the heavy artillery fire of the Ground Forces pounded the tank, artillery and personnel positions of the forces of Saddam, destroying two trucks, one 106-mm gun and one antiaircraft gun of the Iraqi forces and killing a number of Iraqi soldiers.

During the past 24 hours, fighting and sporadic exchanges of fire continued on the southern fronts. The victorious forces of Islam continued to defend their positions and returned Iraqi fire.

On the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the brave personnel of the Gendarmerie opened fire over the enemy positions, killed or wounded a number of their personnel and destroyed four trenches of Saddam's forces.

The self-sacrificing personnel of the Air Force and the antiaircraft units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran yesterday repulsed the limited air violations of the mercenaries of Saddam.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

COUNCIL OF EXPERTS, MAJLIS ELECTION RESULTS

Mazandaran Province

GF131625 Sari Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 13 Dec 82

[Summary] The following results for the Council of Experts' elections in Mazandaran Province have been announced by the provincial election committee:

Total number of votes cast: 1,321,025

1. Ayatollah 'Abdollah Javadi-Amoli: 1,033,190
2. Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi Rohani: 913,700
3. Hojjat ol-Eslam Esma'il Salei-Naftchali: 849,602
4. Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed J'afar Karimi-Dirkala'i: 844,913
5. Hojjat ol-Eslam Hoseyn Mohammadi: 798,831
6. Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Kazem Nurmofidi: 670 748
7. Akhund Yar Mohammad Nazari: 452,268
8. Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Habibollah Taheri: 286,984
9. Akhund Hadi Mohammad 'Abedikor: 104,289
10. Akhund 'Abdoljalil J'afarian-Gonbadi: 72,146

Zanjan, Gilan

LD132330 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Dec 82

[Summary] The director-general of elections and the supervisor of the state elections headquarters announced the results of the voting in the following constituencies for the Council of Experts and the Majlis byelections. The voting results for the Council of Experts' elections are:

Zanjan: 595,467 votes cast. Seyyed Mohammad Kho'iniha, Hadi Barikbin and Seyyed Esma'il Musavi obtained absolute majorities with 492,201, 482,822 and 441,968 votes respectively.

Gilan: 779,885 votes cast. Sadeq Ehsanbakhsh and Mohammad 'Ali Aminian alias (?Fatideh) gained absolute majorities with 555,906 and 403,628 votes respectively. A second round of elections will be held to elect the two remaining members.

The total votes counted so far in 22 constituencies have reached 12,928,066.

The Majlis byelection results are:

Zanjan: 130,724 votes cast. Mostafa Naser alias Naseri gained absolute majority with 83,396 votes.

Eastern Azarbayjan

GF140548 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 14 Dec 82

[Text] The elections supervisor at the Interior Ministry has informed us of the results of the Council of Experts' elections in Eastern Azarbayjan Province. We invite you to listen to them:

Of the 1,566,316 votes cast in the constituency of Eastern Azaybayjan to elect 7 representatives to the Council of Experts, first was Mohsen Malakuti who received 1,345,610 votes; second was Mirza Mohammad 'Ali Angaji who received 1,127,347 votes; third, Seyyed Hoseyn Purmir-Ghaffari alias Musavi-Tabrizi, who received 1,087,444 votes; fourth, Boyuk Khalilzadeh alias Moravvej, who received 1,062,941 votes; fifth, Mohsen Mojtahed alias Shabestari, who received 1,006,950 votes; sixth, 'Abdolhoseyn Tabrizi ol-Gharavi, who received 915,298 votes.

These gentlemen gained the maximum number of votes and regarding the seventh representative from Eastern Azarbayjan Province, a second round of voting will have to be organized.

The total number of votes received from all over the 23 provinces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, excluding Tehran Province, were 14,494,382, which have been counted and submitted to the country's elections headquarters.

MUSAVI-ARDABILI GIVES FRIDAY PRAYER SERMONS

LD101452 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Excerpts] Following their participation in the elections to the Council of Experts and the midterm elections to the Islamic Consultative Assembly, the revolutionary Muslim nation of our homeland ardently went to the sites of auspicious and enemy-destroying Friday prayer ceremonies to emphasize the continuation of their violent and clamorous movement against world blasphemy and polytheism, while gloriously observing this religious-political tradition.

The hezbollahi and ever-present Islamic citizens of Tehran, together with other God-seeking and unity-loving compatriots, descended like a raging flood on the safe haven of the faithful and the place of worship of the lovers of God, Tehran University, and congregating therein and on surrounding avenues carried out the Friday prayers under the imamate of Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili.

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, Tehran's provisional Friday imam, in his first prayer sermon began by expounding the Islamic characteristics of the revolution. After noting the differences between the revolution carried out by our homeland's rising, Muslim nation and other world revolutions, he emphasized: Our nation's struggle is one which was conceived in goodness, moved toward goodness and this movement still continues. The culmination of this movement, God willing, will also be good and here all the evils should be removed from the path.

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, Tehran's provisional Friday imam, devoted his second prayer sermon to the issue of the war. Referring to the fundamental nature of the war, he said: Going by what our enemies are saying, we are continuing to be warmongers and according to their claims we do not want to end the war.

Addressing the foes of the Islamic Republic, who claim that the war initiative is still in Saddam's hand and that he should decide the fate of the war and peace, he said: If the initiative is in Saddam's hands, why will he not do so? However, if it is in ours, then you should admit that the power and the initiative for waging war are in the hands of the Islamic Republic of Iran and our mighty combatants are deciding the fate of the war on the fronts.

Continuing his second sermon, Tehran's provisional Friday imam referred to the formation of Iraq's Supreme Council of Islamic Revolution. With the formation of this council, Saddam's sleep has been beset with nightmares and Iraq's Muslim revolutionaries have gained new strength. We hope that an Islamic regime and republic in the absolute sense will soon be set up in Iraq.

In another part of his second sermon, he referred to the convening of the Fes conference and the region's despotic rulers' subservience to the United States: They want to bring the United States into the region in order to intimidate us by this action. Little do they know that the United States used to be in Iran and controlled all our centers but, nevertheless, could not stand up to the clamorous and raging flood of the Iranian nation. The region's Muslim nations should know who is ruling them and why these regimes are not heeding the lesson of our nation's past. Today, they are treading the same path their infernal comrade used prior to 1978.

In another part of his second sermon, Tehran's provisional Friday imam, referring to the trial of Egypt's Muslim revolutionaries, said:

[Begin recording] That unblessed man has incarcerated 300 people. Indictments have been issued against them saying: Why have you carried Korans? Why have you chanted God is great? Why have you mentioned the name of the Islamic revolution and that of Islam? Why have you said Islamic government? These people have given the same answers our young people used to give.

The Mubarak regime thought that by arresting 300 people, by killing a few people under torture, it could consolidate its power! However to us whose hearts are full of sorrow for those who have been killed by torture, this is simply a glad tiding of freedom for every human being who thirsts for justice. We have seen this in other places. I don't know. Perhaps you could judge whether their situation is similar to ours. And the torturers have come along from Israel to teach them. Or is it that they themselves are doing this? How are we to judge this? Of course, you know full well that they will not allow us to find out.

We also know that this is not practical; nevertheless, we will express a wish. If the Arab countries have been stricken with paralysis, are not speaking up against this inhuman, bestial action and are not breathing a single word of protest because their master does not permit this, we as Muslims proclaim: We are ready to go there, to undertake the task of attorney and defend them in that so-and-so court! [shouts of approval] [end recording]

KHAMENE'I SPEAKS AT COMMAND COLLEGE REOPENING

LD111429 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the command and staff college was reopened during a ceremony this morning attended by Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the republic and chief of the Supreme Defense Council. After hearing the report read by the commandant of the college at the gathering of the cadets, Khamene'i read an address in connection with the reopening of the command and staff college and the war imposed by Iraq's Zionist regime on Iran.

Pertaining to the training received by military cadets, the chief of the Supreme Defense Council said: Side by side with this teaching center, an awesome college of war exists on our borders. Today, our military is confident that by utilizing their experience on the battlefield and their own combativeness, they could write books, which they would put at the disposal of seekers of knowledge and students. This is a new departure for us.

Extolling the acts of selflessness and self-sacrifice by Armed Forces personnel in the war, the president said: Right from the start, his holiness the imam was optimistic about you. Today, your tasks confirm and affirm the views of the imam.

In connection with the war, the chief of the Supreme Defense Council said: From the beginning, we said we don't want to threaten any country or government with our Armed Forces. However, neither will we allow a government or other countries in the region to threaten us.

In a part of his address, read during the reopening ceremony for the command and staff college, the president said:

[Begin recording] Our attitude to this imposed war has always been the same. We did not start the war, but have rubbed the nose of the person who started it in the dirt. We are not people who wish to transgress against the rights of others. At the same time, we are not people that allow others to wipe out our nation's rights. Our attitude toward the war, the cessation of the war, the issue of mediation, to the mediators and those who create climates of opinion stems from this way of thinking. Those people who came to our country as peace mediators and babbled about the cessation of the war openly heard our remarks that we did not start it. We would not continue the war if the aggressive enemy were to give up bearing grudges and admit the rights of the Iranian nation.

Today, too, we declare to all those in the world who claim to mediate in this war and babble about mediation that -- contrary to the atmosphere created during the past 1 or 2 weeks by all U.S. and imperialist propagandists, whether in the region or a world level -- we have not made a new decision in connection with the cessation of the war. We are saying precisely what we said on the first day, that is, the day when thousands of square kilometers of our soil was trampled underfoot by the enemy. We have sufficient power and absolute initiative in the war, and we reiterate this.

The curious thing is that certain governments that have been expelled from the Islamic community, particularly from the Arab League, now wish to find a place for themselves among the Islamic countries by spreading the notion of their interceding to mediate in the war.

We warn those who wish to turn the Iran-Iraq war into an instrument for regaining their self-respect: We have been wronged in this war, not only by the Iraqi mercenary and subservient regime but also by all those people who throughout 1 and 1/2 years have kept quiet about Iraq's discredited, disgraceful and condemned aggression and its presence on our soil and did not condemn the aggressor. The moment our combatants began the new phase of their victories and their offensive moves, these people began their desperate efforts and since then have continually attempted to help their ally, Baghdad regime, in the area of political work. We want to expunge the wrong done to us. Islam has taught us: neither perpetrate wrong nor allow wrongdoing to be perpetrated against you! Therefore, the mediation missions, provided they heed Iran's rights and are prepared to bring pressure to bear on the aggressor, are acceptable to us. We are ready to receive them. However, if mediation and the talk about mediation are to be employed as a lever against the Islamic Republic of Iran, then we will neither fear nor acquiesce to such pressure. [end recording]

MUSAVI DETAILS 12 DECEMBER CABINET SESSION

LD121428 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Excerpts] The country's current affairs were discussed at today's Cabinet session chaired by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi. At the conclusion of that session, the prime minister spoke to our correspondent:

[Begin recording] At the session, we discussed the aggression committed by the French police in Paris against our students and our gatherings in France. These attacks were all in violation of international conventions, the need to respect, which the so-called supporters of the human rights stress, that is, the Vienna convention. As before, the incident proved the existence of collaboration among the French regime, the counterrevolution and U.S. imperialism. Of course, the French regime's action did not surprise us, as this regime has reached such an extent of cooperation with the regime of Saddam and other reactionary regimes against our nation and our revolution.

[Question] What are your views concerning the Iraqi regime's claim that its forces have attacked a number of naval targets in the last few days?

[Answer] I believe that by its assertion the Saddam regime was this time pursuing a certain aim in connection with the upcoming elections for the Council of Experts. The Iraqi regime was being encouraged by its masters to believe that it could do something to (?disrupt the election). As far as the claim itself is concerned, I would like to state categorically that this claim, like other previous claims by the Saddam regime, is a pure lie. The Saddam regime has not been able to do anything and its claim was aimed at gaining international publicity.

[Question] Thank you very much. [end recording]

MONTAZERI RECEIVES MUSAVI-KHO'INI, SCORES SAUDIS

LD121404 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini, the imam's representative and supervisor of Iranian pilgrims; Seyyed (Abolfazl) Musavi, Tabriz people's deputy to the Majlis; and Mohammad 'Ali Saduqi yesterday separately met and talked with Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom.

Kho'ini gave a report on this year's pilgrimage ceremony and the injustices perpetrated by the Saudi regime in dealing with Iranian hajj pilgrims.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri then said: The Saudi regime with its oppressive attitude toward the Iranian pilgrims and the representative of the lofty person of the leader of the revolution has rendered the greatest service to the United States and Zionism. The Saudi regime with its barbarous deeds wished as it were to flex its muscles toward the oppressed Muslim nation of Arabia and to make up for the moral and political defeats suffered by its agents during the pilgrimage ceremonies.

Referring to the rights of world Muslims with regard to the two holy places and the need for full supervision and planning in the same connection, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri said: These two holy places which in view of the profound faith and historical roots of the holy religion of Islam belong equally to all Muslims should not remain exclusively in the hands of such a subservient regime which is alien to Islam. All Muslim governments and world Muslims should enjoy world supervision for the administration of the affairs of the two holy places and the ulema in all Muslim countries should work out full and comprehensive plans for safeguarding Islam's great aims from these two holy places.

ABADAN FRIDAY IMAM COMMENTS ON U.S. MANEUVERS

GF121140 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit in Abadan, Friday prayers were held on a lavish scale with the presence of the combatant people of Abadan who had earlier participated in the polling, the brave combatants of Islam and the representative of the Abadan people in the Islamic Majlis, Rashidian. The prayers were led by Hojjat ol-Eslam Jam'i.

In his second sermon, the Friday imam of Abadan alluded to the U.S. military maneuvers in the area: Now that our enemies have realized the might of Islam, they are trying to harm our Islamic movement with their military maneuvers. However, our combatant, brave and ubiquitous nation will not be intimidated by these maneuvers, as it is determined to obliterate all traces of exploiters as soon as possible. If you have faith in God, God will help you. Know that final victory is yours.

BUSHEHR MINIBUS DRIVERS STAGE SIT-IN

GF111838 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] The Bushehr Islamic revolution prosecutor in a statement has condemned the counterrevolutionary action of a number of minibus drivers who intended to disrupt transportation by staging a sit-in and has requested the hezbollahi nation's cooperation with the brother guards.

The text of the statement: The martyr-nurturing hezbollahi nation of Bushehr hereby is informed that since a number of the city's minibus drivers attempted a sit-in, due to the instigation of the counterrevolution, in order to disrupt the transportation of passengers, all minibuses of those who participated in the sit-in hereby are confiscated by this office until further notice. Transport of passengers will be carried out by the brother members of Bushehr Islamic Revolution Guard Corps. We request the hezbollahi nation of Busheht to cooperate with the guard brothers as usual in the way of sacrificing soldiers. This office is seriously examining this issue and shortly will reveal those responsible for this action. Counterrevolution should know that it has no chance of any plots while the hezbollahi nation is present on the scene.

[Signed] Bushehr's Islamic revolution prosecutor's office

The Mobilization Department of Bushehr Islamic Revolution Guard Corps has announced the need for a number of public transport drivers. All drivers who would like to cooperate are requested to contact the offices of the Mobilization Department.

VOICE OF IRAN REPORTS EXECUTIONS 11 DECEMBER

GF131345 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Text] On the eve of the 12 December anniversary and exactly 24 hours after the sham elections to choose another executioner to replace Khomeyni, the murdering regime of mullahs sent nine monarchist Iranians to death. Six of these victims for Khomeyni's blood lust were members of the Nima group and the other three were accused of being supporters of the monarchy and attempting to establish a lawful regime in Iran.

MOPPING-UP OPERATIONS IN KORDESTAN CITED

LD131842 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Dec 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the fighters of Islam, continuing the mopping-up operations in villages of Kordestan and purging them of the counterrevolutionary elements and the minigroups who are the lackeys of imperialism, in a series of coordinated operations succeeded in mopping up the villages of Qal'eh Gah and (Kani Sarveh) in the region of Qorveh, and the villages of (Savaleh) and (Suhan) in the region of (Gazjazareh) during the past few days. They completely purged the illegal, armed assailants and inflicted a heavy blow on them.

NVOI LAMENTS TREATMENT OF 'DISSENTERS'

TA061328 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 4 Dec 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The Situation of Some of the Prisoners Is Worrisome"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Following our nation's glorious revolution, particularly in the era of the liberals' step-by-step government and then in the era of the traitor, Bani-Sadr, counterrevolutionary elements penetrated into government organizations and the revolution's institutions in various forms. The mere growing and handling of a bead sufficed for these elements to entrench themselves in sensitive government organizations.

In his last speech in the Majlis, the martyr Mohammad Montazeri clearly stated: Gentlemen, they are employing members of SAVAK, of the Army's 2d Division or of the Gendarmerie in the Corps, the Prime Ministry and in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Today, they are reinstating such individuals and you must deal with the situation in the country.

Today, those very elements, enjoying the support of some pseudoclergy opposed to the imam's line, cunningly and skillfully are engaged in sabotage; all their measures are aimed at harming the prestige of the Islamic Republic of Iran. These elements pay no heed to the Islamic Republic of Iran's Constitution; they who are pursuing the same policy employed by the Aryamehri SAVAK regarding individuals who have faith and who believe in the revolution but are dissenters.

Unfortunately, contrary to the principles of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Constitution, they imprison a large number of individuals and even the followers of true revolutionary organizations and parties faithful to the imam's genuine line simply because they are dissenters. Numerous documents and evidence show that these patriotic individuals who support the revolution are ill-treated in prisons and that some of the officials, contrary to the guidelines of the imam of the nation and the country's high-ranking authorities, are pursuing the very criminal methods of the SAVAK officials regarding these individuals.

This exists amid conditions in which Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution, has condemned such treatment of prisoners. The imam has said: Even persons sentenced to death must not be slapped in the face, and the slapped person has the right to retribution from the one who slapped him. If a person is guilty, he should be tried and convicted according to the law. If a person is not guilty, no one has the authority to encroach upon his rights.

Despite the imam's guidelines and the principles of our homeland's Constitution, some of the officials, whether during an investigation or in prison, do not refrain from resorting to force and torture against the prisoners.

In particular, in some of the committees, at the beginning of detention, individuals whose offense has not been established at all and even when not charged with any accusation, are treated very rudely and roughly. They beat and insult them and have a very unhealthy attitude toward them.

It goes without saying that such an improper attitude is being held by those very penetrative persons who currently have consolidated their positions and, by these means, are striving to harm the revolution and to fan general discontent.

In some prisons, officials try to bring dissenters to their knees by resorting to various SAVAK methods. Who knows, perhaps these gentlemen were indeed one day SAVAKists.

The issue of political prisoners is one of the current painful issues of our society which harms the revolution and our Islamic Republic in the international arena. It is beneath the dignity of the Islamic Republic of Iran to detain innocent persons in prison for months and, should they protest these unlawful acts, for extremely severe restrictions to be imposed on them. The speaker of the Islamic Majlis has said: Those who are opposed to us in principle and from the political viewpoint and who struggle to achieve their goals will not be arrested or executed. Yet, the fact is that there are certain persons in our homeland who act contrary to this and who by harassing innocent individuals and dissenters undermine the revolution, violate the Constitution and distort the feature of the Islamic Republic.

ESFAHAN REFINERY TO BE SUPPLIED NATURAL GAS

GF121657 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 9 Dec 82

[From "Iran's Social and Economic Development" Program]

[Text] The project for supplying natural gas to the Esfahan refinery was put into effect 6 months ago within the framework of a budget totalling R1.6 billion. A total of 90 percent of this project has been completed to date. When the project is completed, 350,000 cubic meters of natural gas will be supplied to the refinery daily. This total is the refinery's capacity.

The project for supplying the Esfahan refinery with natural gas is being put into effect by the Muslim experts and workers of the iron and steel plant in Esfahan. On the basis of the plans drawn up by Muslim experts, the remaining sections of the project will be completed in the future. (?When the project is completed), factories and other industrial centers close to the gas pipeline will have natural gas supplies as well. When the plan is completed, a total of 300 tons of natural gas will be made available for the consumption of the people.

AFGHAN MUJAHIDIN SUCCESSES IN GHOWR PROVINCE

LD111216 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] During a battle between the Afghan Muslim Mujahidin and the Soviet invading forces in the (Sang-e Sapid) and (Chashmeh Sayyar) regions, in Ghowr Province, 10 Soviet troops were killed and 23 were wounded. Also in this battle, two tanks of the invading forces with all their servicemen were set on fire and seven Kalashnikov automatic rifles were taken as booty by the Muslim revolutionaries.